

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Julian called the regular meeting of the Kasson Township Board to order at 7:00 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Greg Julian – Supervisor, Dana Boomer - Clerk, Julia Carter - Treasurer, Tad Carter – Trustee, Roger Noonan – Trustee
Member(s) Absent: None
Staff Present: None

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – The board briefly discussed the agenda. Julian asked to add Board of Review appointments to New Business. **Noonan moved to approve the agenda as amended. T. Carter seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES – The board discussed the minutes from the regular meeting on November 9, 2022. **Noonan moved, T. Carter seconded to approve the November 9, 2022 regular meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

PERTINENT COMMUNICATIONS: Noonan received a couple of phone calls about the landfill – that will be discussed under Supervisor’s Report.

PRESENTATION: C. Flaska/Hall Renovations

Corey Flaska was present to discuss the proposed renovations to the township hall by Leelanau Construction, to potentially take place in 2023. Flaska summarized his proposal for new front and rear entrances/exits. The front bid was for \$28,750, and the rear bid for \$42,750. Julian asked about potential timelines for the projects. Flaska stated that the permitting process is currently taking 2-3 months in many cases. They hold all of the necessary equipment for the construction in-house, and so they are looking at approximately 2 months for construction; however, the concrete work in the rear cannot be done in cold weather. The board and Flaska discussed details for the project, including door locations, materials, and timelines. Flaska offers a preliminary option, which would involve paying Leelanau Construction \$10,000, \$5,000 of which goes to the architectural drawings and \$5,000 is held in escrow. If the board then hires Leelanau Construction for the project, the entire \$5,000 escrow goes towards the project. If the board does not hire Leelanau Construction, the township gets the drawings and \$2,500 back. The drawings would for sure be done by February and might be done by the January meeting.

Noonan moved to approve payment of \$10,000 to Leelanau Construction for the initial drawings and escrow. J. Carter seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The board discussed various aspects related to the proposal. Flaska will work with Julian and Boomer to get the contract signed and initial payment made.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a) **TREASURER’S REPORT:** J. Carter had previously submitted the treasurer’s report to the board. Receipts total \$45,915.42. Disbursements \$38,051.54. Balance \$650,206.81.

- b) **BUDGET REPORT:** Boomer presented a budget report for November. An updated budget through December and a draft budget for 2023/24 will be presented in January.
- c) **BILL APPROVAL** – Boomer had previously presented the check detail. The board briefly discussed. **J. Carter moved to pay the bills as presented; seconded by Noonan. All in favor, motion carried.**

Boomer asked if the board wanted to pay Leelanau Construction from ARPA funds or pay them from the general fund and wait to use ARPA funds until additional details are received regarding the Maple City project. The board briefly discussed and determined to pay Leelanau Construction from the general fund and hold the ARPA funds for the Maple City project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Cemeteries** – Projects regarding the cemeteries are ongoing. Tim Figura developed the draft resolution for the East Kasson Cemetery regarding the Herrmann request (see attached). The board briefly discussed **T. Carter moved to approve Resolution 11-2022 (Resolution to Acknowledge Cemetery Plot Ownership), second by J. Carter.** Boomer and Noonan expressed concerns regarding the competing stories from the Herrmanns and Brights regarding how many lots were sold, and how many additional people may come forward with similar evidence. The board briefly discussed. **Roll call vote: J. Carter (yes), T. Carter (yes), Noonan (no), Boomer (no), Julian (yes). Motion passed 3-2.**

Boomer has been in contact with James Schettek – they have been working in the Kasson Cemetery this week removing stumps and preparing ground for seeding. They expect to be finished tomorrow. Noonan is continuing to follow up regarding the fencing at the East Kasson Cemetery.

- b. **Mining/Gravel Legislation** – No further action has been taken on gravel legislation. Julian has been in contact with the new Representative, Betsy Coffia, who will be representing the township.
- c. **Sidewalk Ordinance** – No discussion - tabled
- d. **Township Master Plan** – The PC is currently discussing proposed revisions to the Master Plan, and has not yet re-forwarded the document to the Township Board. Tabled.
- e. **Other Unfinished Business** - None

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **2023 Meeting Dates** – Boomer presented a draft resolution with the proposed meeting dates for 2023 (see attached). The board briefly discussed, and revised meeting dates for January, February and November. **Noonan moved, Boomer seconded to approve Resolution 12-2022, 2023 Meeting Dates. Roll call vote: J. Carter (yes), T. Carter (yes), Boomer (yes), Noonan (yes), Julian (yes). All in favor, motion carried.**
- b. **Board of Review Appointments** – The Board of Review appointments are expiring December 31, 2022. Julian nominated Chuck Schaeffer, Dick Witham, and Mike Shimek to continue as Board of

Review members. **Boomer moved to accept the nominations for Schaeffer, Witham, and Shimek to the Board of Review, to expire December 31, 2024. J. Carter seconded. All in favor, motion carried.** Julian requested the appointment of an alternate member. Julian has received a letter of interest from Thrasos Eftaxiadis, who recently moved to the township and has experience serving on various boards and commissions in other townships. Julian recommended the appointment of Mr. Eftaxiadis as the alternate to the Board of Review. **Boomer moved to accept the nomination of Eftaxiadis as an alternate to the Board of Review, to expire December 31, 2024. Noonan seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

c. Other New Business - None

CAPITAL PROJECTS – EXPLORATION

- a. **Maple City Improvement Project** – Julian has been in contact with Gosling Czubak and they are moving forward with their project. Julian and T. Carter had a virtual meeting with the architect, and have preliminary drawings that plot the existing landscape of the village. The architect has started on preliminary work for a proposed layout, and will now be contacting the Road Commission to work with them on requirements and cost sharing.
- b. **Township Hall Renovation** – Previously discussed
- c. **Fire Department Capital Improvements** – Solon Township has approved their half of the funding for a new roof for the fire department. Centerville Township will be discussing their half of the funding this week. Julian has also been maintaining contact with the County Board of Commissioners regarding the park, and speaking with a realtor regarding other available properties. Julian reported that is working on scheduling an initial meeting to discuss the timeline and process for updating the interlocal agreement.

REPORTS: Planning Commission (PC) – The PC meeting in November included public hearings for Reith Riley and Elmers, as well as the updates to the Master Plan. The SUP for Reith Riley was approved, the SUP for Elmers in being held in abeyance pending resolution of some concerns of the PC. There will be a ZBA meeting for Elmers on December 19. The Elmers SUP will be discussed at the December PC meeting.

Zoning Administrator (ZA) – Cypher had previously submitted written reports to the board.

Supervisor – Julian summarized his activities for the month. He met with Glen Lake Supervisor Tom Laureto to discuss fire and emergency services issues. There are a lot of similarities between the two department service areas, and communication is important. Habitat for Humanity is currently working on two duplexes and the septic system for the development. Glens Landfill has had some odor issues for the last couple of weeks, with numerous complaints. An email from Glens was forwarded to the board members – they are working with EGLE to expand the gas collection system and mitigate issues.

Assessor – Assessing business has been moving forward as usual. The December Board of Review meeting was today, with one correction being made. The dates are set for March 2023 meetings.

Fire Board – Julian summarized the Fire Board meeting for December. The department is preparing to post hiring announcements for the three new full-time positions in January, to start April 1, 2023.

Clerk/Elections Report – Boomer reported that a partial recount of Proposals 2 and 3 has been approved. Four precincts in Leelanau County will be recounted for Proposal 2, none for Proposal 3.

Kasson is not included in either re-count. The re-count for the four Leelanau precincts will be Thursday, December 15 at the Garfield Township Hall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Hall Use and Buildings and Grounds Reports –There are no issues with building and grounds. There is a church music group meeting the first Sunday of the month from 4-6 pm. The Bayside Travellers Dance Group met at the hall. There are no scheduled rentals for January.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BOARD COMMENT: Noonan stated that it is too bad that the recycling center in Cedar will be closing. The board agreed that it is unfortunate this is closing. The board briefly discussed the recycling site in Kasson Township, at Glen Lake School. Noonan also stated that the trees planted by Elmers on CR-669 are disappointing. Noonan would like to see a formal flagpole placed with the other work on the hall. J. Carter is also disappointed that the recycling center in Cedar is closing. Julian wished everyone a Happy Holidays.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 7 pm.

Motion by Noonan to adjourn, second by J. Carter / **All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Submitted by:
Dana Boomer, Township Clerk

Kasson Township Board Resolution
RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE CEMETERY PLOT OWNERSHIP
Resolution Number 11-2022

WHEREAS, The Cemetery or Burial Grounds Act, Act 215 of 1937, MCL 128.1 et. seq. authorizes a Township to own or control cemetery or burial grounds; to provide for perpetual care and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Corporations in Michigan have the power to only expend funds for a public purpose, and generally cannot provide funds or property without appropriate compensation; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Kasson (Township) has recently acquired the East Kasson Township Cemetery (Cemetery), which is a former private cemetery that had ceased to be maintained by any entity, the Township is in possession of the Cemetery's records, which records appear to be incomplete; and

WHEREAS, Anita Herrmann has notified the Township that the Herrmann family had purchased four Cemetery lots on or around 1982, which purchases were not clearly indicated in the Cemetery's records, and which purchase is evidenced by a checkbook entry made by the citizen at or near the time of the event and transmitted by someone with knowledge of the event, and a member of the citizens' family is currently interred in one of the lots; and

WHEREAS, Anita Herrmann has substantiated these claims by sworn affidavit which has been submitted to the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township has made a good faith effort to determine whether the purchase can be substantiated by the Cemetery's records, and while the Cemetery records appear to show that at least one lot was purchased by the family, the Township has not been able to find other corresponding evidence of the purchase as described by the citizen; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to acknowledge the Herrmanns' ownership of four lots (one already utilized) in the East Kasson Township Cemetery due to the evidence provided by the family, the likely deficiencies in the Cemetery records from the subject time period, and other reasons stated above;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board recognizes the Herrmann Family's ownership of four lots (one already utilized) in the East Kasson Township Cemetery.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member T. Carter. Second offered by Board Member J. Carter.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": Julian, T. Carter, J. Carter

"Nay": Boomer, Noonan

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION 12-2022 – Resolution to Establish 2023 Township Board Meeting Dates

Whereas, Michigan Compiled Law 41.72a(1) authorizes the township board of Kasson Township to set regular meeting dates,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as of December 13, 2022, and pursuant to MCL 41.72a(1), the Kasson Township 2023 Regular Board Meetings shall be held at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month (with exceptions as necessary) as follows:

Wednesday, January 18

Wednesday, February 15

Tuesday, March 14

Tuesday, April 11

Tuesday, May 9

Tuesday, June 13

Tuesday, July 11

Tuesday, August 8

Tuesday, September 12

Tuesday, October 10

Monday, November 13

Tuesday, December 12